

THE
Daily Express
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VOL. VI

LAND TO OBELISK

THE
Daily Express
ENCYCLOPÆDIA

*INCLUDING 3500 ILLUSTRATIONS
WITH ATLAS & GAZETTEER INDEX*



VOL. VI
LAN to OBE

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ILLUSTRATIONS

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PRONUNCIATION

THE imitated pronunciations are intended to assist the reader in the enunciation of unfamiliar words, and necessarily, especially in the case of foreign words, only afford a rough approximation to the actual sound. The signs used are to be pronounced as follows —

a	..	as a in hat	o	..	as o in not
ah	..	„ a in father	ō	..	„ o in note
ā	..	„ a in hate	u	..	„ u in but
ār	..	„ ar in hare	ū	..	„ u in tune
aw	.	„ o in more	ur	..	„ ur in lure
e	..	„ e in bell	oo	..	„ u in put
ē	..	„ e in bee	ōō	..	„ oo in boon
ēr	..	„ eer in deer	ou	..	„ ow in now
ē	.	„ <i>se</i> in herd, <i>or</i>	ū	..	„ a in comma
		„ <i>i</i> in bird	th	..	„ th in think
i	..	„ i in bit	dh	..	„ th in there
ī	.	„ i in bite	gh	..	„ ch in loch
īr	..	„ i in fire	zh	..	„ s in pleasure

Other consonants are given their ordinary English sound.

Land Laws, *see* CONVEYANCING
REAL PROPERTY LAND TAX

Land League Irish, formed in 1849 by the Nationalist party for organised resistance to the payment of rent.

Landlord and Tenant. The relationship of landlord and tenant arises from the grant of a leasehold interest and since the Law of Property Act 1925 the only kind of leasehold that is a legal estate is the *term of years absolute* which may take several forms (1) tenancy for a fixed number of years (2) tenancy for a term which is liable to be determined before it has run its full course *e.g.* by reason of a condition that the tenancy shall be forfeited if the tenant commits a breach of covenant (3) tenancy from year to year which may last indefinitely if not determined by proper service at the end of a year (4) tenancy for a less than a year *e.g.* weekly tenancy. Other tenancies constitute equitable estates *e.g.* for a term of years determinable on the death of a life or lives. These are now abolished and take effect as leases for 99 years. Leases perpetually renewable on payment of a fine by the tenant or lessee are also abolished and converted into terms of 2000 years. Tenancy at will is rare it arises *e.g.* where a person is allowed to live in a house rent free and for no fixed period. Tenancy on sufferance arises where a tenant whose lease has expired continues the tenancy without a renewed contract. Such a tenant has the ordinary rights of a tenant against everybody except the landlord who is at liberty to eject him in the absence of a new agreement express or implied, *e.g.* where he continues to pay rent when a new tenancy is implied. The landlord cannot claim rent from a tenant on sufferance but only compensation for use and occupation of the land.

The rights and liabilities of the parties are usually fixed by the covenants in the lease but certain duties are imposed by law in the absence of

express covenants. The landlord is liable for property tax due in respect of the premises and cannot throw this burden on the tenant. The tenant must pay it on demand but is then entitled to deduct the amount from the next payment of rent. Similarly the landlord is liable for any tithe rent-charge. He is liable if he or any one claiming under him disturbs the tenant in his possession of the land *e.g.* by working minerals under the land so as to cause it to subside. This is called the covenant for *quiet enjoyment*. There is an implied covenant that a furnished house is fit for habitation at the beginning of the tenancy and by the Housing Act 1925 where a house is let at a rent not exceeding £40 in London and £26 elsewhere that it is fit for habitation at the beginning of the lease and will remain so throughout the tenancy. The tenant is liable for *rates* (q 1). He has the following implied rights *estovers* (q v) *emblements* (q v) compensation for agricultural improvements as enumerated in the Agricultural Holdings Act 1923 in respect of which he will not obtain the full benefit during his tenancy right to compensation for improvements and loss of goodwill given to tenants of business premises by the Landlord and Tenant Act 1927. Improvements must be such that they add to the letting value of the premises at the termination of the lease and can only be claimed if notice to make improvements was given to the landlord and his permission or if he objects that of the County Court, has been obtained before beginning the work. Finally the tenant has the right to remove window fixtures (q v). Upon the breach of an express covenant by the tenant the landlord may bring an action for damages. As a further safeguard it is usual to insert a proviso for re-entry in the lease.

The Law of Property Act 1925 however gives relief against such forfeiture (1) In the case of a covenant other than the covenant to pay rent, the landlord cannot re-enter or sue for

the recovery of the premises until he has served a notice on the tenant specifying the breach, requiring him to remedy it if that is possible, and demanding reasonable compensation. If the tenant does not comply, the landlord may proceed. (2) Where a landlord is proceeding by action or otherwise to enforce a right of re-entry, the tenant may apply to the court for relief, and this may, according to the circumstances, be refused or granted with or without condition. Certain covenants have, however, been excepted from this section, *e.g.* covenant of forfeiture on the bankruptcy of the tenant of a public-house. Where there is a covenant to leave a house at the end of the term in a good state of internal decorative repair, and the landlord makes unconscionable demands, the tenant may apply to the court for relief. (As to remedies for failure to pay rent, *see* EXECUTION.)

A term for a fixed number of years ceases automatically without notice at the end of the period. A tenancy from year to year requires at least half a year's notice on either side to determine it, the notice expiring with the current year of the tenancy, *i.e.* on the anniversary of the day on which the tenancy began. If the tenancy began on one of the usual quarter days, at least a quarter's notice must be given, or 182 days if it began at some other date. Nothing prevents the parties from making express stipulations as to notice, except in the case of agricultural holdings, in respect of which at least 12 months' notice must be given. In the case of other periodic tenancies, similar rules apply. A weekly tenancy requires a week's notice, a monthly tenancy a month's notice (*see also* LEASE, RENT RESTRICTION ACTS).

Land Nationalisation. Many have held that the land, as the original source of food and all other wealth, being limited and uncreatable by labour, should be owned by the State instead of the individual. Absolute private ownership of land is a comparatively late development in history, which reached

its most extreme acceptance in the interval between the feudal and democratic periods, especially on the Continent.

Nationalisation was advocated in the second quarter of the 19th cent. by a Belgian, Colins, who proposed that the right of succession should be abolished, land reverting to the State on the death of its owner. A French professor, Walras, modified this by saying that the State should purchase the land from the owner, giving reasonable indemnification. Both theories envisage the return of land to the care of professional farmers, who would, however, rent lands from the State for their personal exploitation, and would not be permitted to sell it to other individuals or to leave it uncultivated. Such a system is in force in Palestine in the area which has been taken over by the Jewish National Fund for the benefit of returning Jews.

In 1919 many Central and Eastern European countries, as a first act of Revolution, confiscated all hereditary estates and restored them to the State. In most cases this was followed by a partition among many small owners, on the Socialist theory that a man is entitled to land which he can himself cultivate. In Soviet Russia, however, theoretically all land remained in the hands of the State, though the same peasants continued to farm it. Steady pressure, however, has produced a more real form of public ownership, in which farms are collectively owned and managed by the community.

While nationalisation of land has never gained much practical support in England, the more moderate theory of State taxation of land, advocated by the American, Henry George, has more currency, and is supported by a large body of Liberal thought. George's particular aim was to take away the unearned increment from land, due to increase in population, discovery of mines, the exploitation of building sites, etc., by heavy and direct taxes.

In 1924, Mr (now Lord) Snowden,

on the occasion of the first Labour Budget expressed the intention of his Government to bring into force later on a bill dealing with land valuation and land taxation. The Labour Government of 19 9-31 proposed to put the intention into effect but its defeat intervened.

London Letitia Elizabeth (1802-1838) English poetess published many volumes of verse under the signature L. E. L. Her novels include *Romance and Reality* (1831) and *Ethel Churchill* (1834).

Landor Walter Savage (1775-1864) English author resided in Wales, France and Italy. His republican ideals and his irascibility alienated many. His best known work is his *Imaginary Conversations* (1824) still read as one of the finest examples of early 19th cent English prose. Of great interest are his epigrams and short poems especially those dealing with his love for Ianthe and his Latin verse in the manner of Martial and Catullus. He was a stylist in prose and verse. In later life he was befriended by Browning whose memories of him were printed in 1919. His life was written by John Forster (1869) and by Sir Sydney Colvin (1881).

Land Reclamation, the rendering of land fit for cultivation when previously unfit, whether the cause was poor barren soil, or surfeit of stagnant water or salt swamp or flooding from rivers etc. Land may be reclaimed by enrichment by drainage by diverting of rivers or streams by the building of dykes to keep out water by irrigation of dry land or by a method which has been recently tried with great success on our shores where certain grasses have been planted whose roots bind together the clay or sand and prevent its erosion while gradually building up a new and fertile soil and raising the land surface above the incoming tide so that eventually cultivation will be possible. In recent years numerous land reclamation schemes have been projected or undertaken in various parts of the

world. One of the most notable is that of the Zuider Zee (qv) which aims at adding considerably to the cultivable area of Holland.

Land Registration system of facilitating the dealing with land by permitting or compelling the registration at a central registry of various matters affecting the land in question. In England there are three systems of registration: (1) registration of third party rights e.g. deeds of arrangements, writs and orders affecting land, land-charges etc. (2) Registration of deeds affecting land by transfer or creation of a legal estate. This system exists only in Middlesex and Yorkshire; its advantage is to prevent all duplications and suppressions of deeds. (3) Registration of title. This system is compulsory in the County of London, in Eastbourne and Hastings and voluntary in the rest of England and Wales. Where the system is in full force no one dealing with land is concerned with the history of the title for the law recognizes no title to land save entry on the register in regard to land transferred since the passing of the Acts. The advantages of registration are clear. In the case of a chattel the possessor is generally the owner and transfer is simple. But an estate may be mortgaged; the person in possession may be a tenant paying rent a trustee for another a life-tenant—he is seldom a full owner. Thus until the various Land Registration Acts and the real property legislation of the last few years transfer was complicated by the fact that often difficult researches had to be made before the position of the land with regard to ownership could be discovered and a clear title established. It will be some time before the full effects of the recent legislation are felt but in many cases already transfer has become almost as easy as the transfer of a share. See also ESTATE TENURE.

Landscape Gardening the application of systematic planning and construction to gardens, parks, estates

and even towns, in order to obtain a given effect. In America a more usual term is *Landscape Architecture*.

Historically, landscape gardening is very old. The art of making the best use of the ground surrounding a house was well understood by the Romans, while still earlier there is the tradition of the "Hanging Gardens" of Babylon as one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

As with all other arts, gardening was at a low level following the fall of the Roman Empire, except in the monasteries, from whose vegetable and herb gardens and fish-pools we may date the beginning of landscape gardening.

With the Renaissance, interest in gardening spread beyond the monastery walls.

For many years landscape gardening was done on very formal lines, some idea of which may be gained from the Dutch Garden at Hampton Court. Yew and box hedges were very largely employed, and box-trees cut into fantastic shapes, such as peacocks, men on horseback, and turrets, were regarded as the correct decoration for a garden, rather than a display of flowers.

Naturally, gardens have always tended to reflect the spirit of the times, and with the rise of romanticism in England during the 18th cent., "nature in the raw" came into favour. No matter how small the area at his disposal, every fashionable rich man strove to have woods, dells, streams and "classic" ruins, and a style only applicable to large parks was used indiscriminately.

A very fine use of vista is seen in the grounds of Aldenham House, Herts, where an artificial woodland has been constructed, consisting of the most decorative trees and flowering shrubs, cut across by grass sides, down every one of which there is a beautiful view over the surrounding country.

In the U.S.A., landscape architecture has been carried to a very high pitch, and even hills have been constructed

or removed in order to improve the vista from a house.

In Japan and China, gardening has been very highly developed in a formal style, with stone bridges, stone lanterns, and fish ponds, together with flowering trees, and plants such as the iris and chrysanthemum.

The present tendency in England for the small garden is pre-eminently towards rock-gardening.

Landscape Painting, see PAINTING
Landseer, Sir Edwin Henry (1802-1873), English painter. Landseer's father and 3 brothers were all artists of considerable standing. He was born in London, and first exhibited at the Academy at the age of 13. The following year he began to study at the Academy schools, he became an A.R.A. in 1826, R.A. in 1831, and was knighted in 1850. His paintings of animals and particularly of dogs won him as wide a popularity and as great an admiration as has ever been bestowed upon an English artist. His popularity was increased rather than diminished by the extreme sentimentality and the humour which he introduced into his later pictures. Such examples as *Dignity and Impudence*, *The Old Shepherd's Chief Mourner*, and *Suspense* show the depths to which he descended. He designed the lions for the Nelson Monument in Trafalgar Square. His pictures hang in all the galleries of England, important only as indicating the artistic tastes of the leaders of Victorian society. He was buried in St Paul's Cathedral.

Land's End, a promontory at the S.W. extremity of Cornwall and the most W. point in England. The promontory is a lofty mass of granitic rock fringed by dangerous reefs, indicated to shipping by the Longships Light-house. (See illustration, vol. v, p. 40.)

Landsknecht [*LANDSKNECHT*], a German mercenary foot soldier, first recruited by Maximilian I., and named *landschrecht* (man of the plains) in contrast to the Swiss soldiers from the mountains. They were originally raised in Swabia by colonels holding recruitment

commissions from the Emperor and soon became the finest soldiers in Europe. In the 17th cent. the name came to be applied generally to mercenaries fighting on any side. The *landsknechte* were armed with pike or lance and thus gave rise to the English corruption lance knight. **See also ARMY**

Landslips geological phenomena liable to occur whenever a bed of porous rock overlies an impervious bed. Water filtering through the porous bed saturates the lower layers and loosens their cohesion so that the overlying layers rest on a weakened base. If the ground is not horizontal the mass will tend to slide. Particularly good examples are seen in many places on the S coast of England where the porous Upper Greensand underlying the Chalk rests on impervious Gault Clay. These are the conditions at Axmouth where one of the most famous landslips in this country took place in Dec 1839 following a very wet summer and autumn. About 40 acres representing 8 million tons of rock broke away from the cliff along a length of $\frac{1}{2}$ m.

Landsturm [LANTSTÖRM] a militia composed of all eligible men not serving in the Navy first line Army or Landwehr (originally a general war time levy). In Germany the Landsturm was divided into two Bans the first of men between 17 and 20 and all those not called up for the active army the second of those over 30. In Austria



Land : EoL

Hungary the age division was from 38. Huge numbers of Landstürmers were raised by both countries in the World War.

Land Tax, in Great Britain an annual tax levied on land each parish being responsible for a certain quota which is levied at a rate not exceeding 1s in the £ on the annual value of the land and buildings thereon. In this form the tax dates from 1793 when the existing tax was made a perpetual rent-charge on the land in the parish the owner of the property being entitled to redeem his liability by a capital payment equal to 25 times the annual tax. Where the income of the owner does not exceed £160 he is wholly exempt from the tax where it does not exceed £400 one half is remitted.

Lloyd George in his 1909 Budget introduced four new duties viz (a) *Increment Value Duty* levied on every sale or transfer of land (b) *Reversion Duty* levied on the benefit accruing to the lessor on the termination of long leases the benefit being the difference between the value at the beginning and at the end of the lease. (c) *Undeveloped Land Duty* being an annual duty of $\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £ on the value of undeveloped land (d) *Mineral Rights Duty* an annual duty of 1s in the £ on mineral royalties. The difficulties of assessment and collection proved great collection was suspended during the World War and the taxes were finally abolished in 1920 duties already levied being returned.

Land Tenure Under the feudal system all land was held from the King to the barons from the barons to their tenants etc hence tenure (Latin *tenere*=to hold). Land was therefore held on the condition of military service that liability gradually being exchanged for quit rent. The tenant class developed into the settled yeomanry while the villeins became paid labourers. By the time of Henry III the Feudal System was rapidly giving way to individual

ownership, and the lord of the manor steadily increased the area of his enclosed land in the following centuries. By the end of the 15th cent., many yeomen and villeins had become fixed tenants, paying rent in produce and cash, the landlord provided buildings and land, and the tenant contributed stock and working capital. The excess villeins were pauperised in large numbers in the 16th cent. and formed a beggar class. In the 18th cent., the development of farming with manures, scientific breeding, etc., brought greater prosperity. Leases of 7, 14, or 21 years became common, but caused great hardship in periods of depression, as in the Napoleonic Wars and after 1880. In the mid-19th cent., the industrial boom brought another burst of enclosing, unparalleled since the 16th cent. In 30 years ending 1875, 500,000 acres were enclosed, and measures had to be taken to protect the remaining common land. Small holdings were numerous, the majority holding less than 50 acres, while uncertainty as to the future led to yearly tenancies. After the World War unsuccessful efforts were made to settle ex-servicemen on small holdings, granted by the State, but the gradual fall of prices after 1921 made this unprofitable, and brought great distress to the established farmers. This condition persisted, despite various relief measures, such as the wheat subsidy.

Land Title, the means whereby the owner of land has the lawful possession of his property, it exists where the right of possession (*q v*) is joined with the property. On a contract for the transfer of the land, this title is evidenced by a series of documents, called documents of title, or title-deeds, showing all the matters, transfers, devolutions, etc., that have affected the land, the total effect of which is to vest the land in the present owner. See also **LAND REGISTRATION**.

Landwehr [**LANDVÄR**], an armed force called upon for continuous service only in war time. The Prussian

Landwehr was formed in the war against Napoleon, and became the second-line army. It was composed of reservists who, after their regular army service, served for 11 years in the Landwehr, passing out at the age of 30 into the Landsturm (*q v*). In Austria-Hungary the Landwehr was strengthened by men for whom no room could be found in the regular army, in addition to its complement of army reservists. In the World War, Germany raised 34 Landwehr divisions, Austria 11 (Schützen) divisions, and Hungary 17 (Honvé) divisions.

Lane, Edward William (1801-1876), English student of Arabic, lived for some time in Egypt under the name of Mansur Effendi. His works include an *Account of the Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians* (1830), *Selections from the Kur-ân* (1843), translation of the *Arabian Nights* (1838-40), and an *Arabic-English Lexicon* (1863-71).

Lane, Sir Hugh (1875-1915), Irish connoisseur, who set up as an art-dealer, and employed the wealth that he accumulated in getting together a splendid collection of modern paintings. These he lent to the National Gallery of Dublin in 1906, offering to present them to the nation if a suitable building were provided. Annoyed at the procrastination of the Dublin authorities, he made a will in 1913, leaving the collection to the London National Gallery, but subsequently added a codicil in which he restored them to the Irish nation. After he was drowned, at the sinking of the *Lusitania*, in May 1915, this codicil was found to have remained unwitnessed, and was, therefore, legally of no effect. In spite of much dissension and many protests from Ireland, the pictures remain to-day in the Tate Gallery.

Lane, Sir William Arbuthnot (b 1856), English author and surgeon, is consulting surgeon to Guy's Hospital and President of the New Health Society. His works include many surgical and anatomical treatises, *New*

Health for Everyman (1939) and numerous articles in the daily press on diet and health.

Lanfranc (c 1005-1089) Archbishop of Canterbury born at Pavia where he was educated. He founded a School at Avranches in 1039 when he gained a reputation as a teacher. He entered the Benedictine order in 1042 and was appointed prior at Bec in 1045. Here he set up a school in the monastery which soon became a famous centre of learning. During the conflict on the question of transubstantiation he defended the doctrine and compiled his theories in *De Corpore et Sanguine Domini*. He was appointed prior of St. Stephen's Caen in 1066 and Archbishop of Canterbury 4 years later an office he held until his death. Lanfranc crowned William II king of England in 1087.

Lang Andrew (1844-1912) Scots critic and author. His first literary efforts were poetic. *The Ballads and Lyrics of Old France* (1874), *Helen of Troy* (1887), *Ballads and Verses Vain* (1884) and *Grass of Parnassus* (1888). He was also successful as the teller of many charming fairy tales which are given in *The Blue Red Green Yellow* and other coloured *Fairy Tale Books*. Other of his works deal with myth and folklore—*Custom and Myth* (1884), *Magic and Religion* (1901) and *The Secret of the Totem* (1905)—and with mysteries of the past such as *The Mystery of Mary Stuart* (1901) and the mystery of the Man in the Iron Mask in *The Falet's Tragedy* (1903). His classical scholarship found scope in *Homer and his Age* (1906) and in many translations of Greek poets.

Lang Cosmo Gordon (b 1844) Archbishop of Canterbury from 1908. He was ordained priest in 1890 his first cure being at Leeds. Vicar of St. Mary's Oxford (1894-6) he was consecrated Bishop of Stepney and made Canon of St. Paul's (1901) until 1908 when he became Archbishop of York. He was appointed to the See of Canterbury in 1908 (qv). His published works include *The*

Visions of Jesus as Marks of the Way of Life (1900) and *The Opportunity of the Church of all England* (1906).

Langham, Simon (c 1310-1360) Archbishop of Canterbury. He became a monk of St Peter's Westminster in 1335 prior and abbot in 1349 and Chancellor of England in 1363. Langham was consecrated Primate of All England in 1366. He is said to have removed Wyclif from the headship of Canterbury Hall. In 1368 he was created cardinal. He died at Avignon and his body was removed to Westminster Abbey 3 years later.

Langland, William (c 1330-c 1400) English poet to whom is attributed *The Vision of Piers the Plowman*, an allegorical poem which exists in many MSS and is the centre of much controversy. It is one of the last alliterative poems written in English. It is characterised by its vigorous diction and its emphatic denunciation of religious and social abuse of power. *Richard the Redeless* is a poem of a similar nature which has been attributed to Langland.

Langley Samuel Pierpont (1834-1906) American scientist. His fame is connected with the birth of the heavier than air flying machine. In 1896 he launched an aerodrome as he called it weighing 96 lb and measuring 16 ft. from stem to stern and 13 ft. across the wings. This machine remained aloft for 1½ minutes which was the limit of time relative to the amount of power it carried. A rather larger machine of his flew for ½ m. at a speed of 30 miles per hour. In 1903 he went a step farther and constructed a machine large enough to carry a man but the Press ridiculed it so much that the Government dared not lend financial aid to the enterprise. He was secretary to the Smithsonian Institution 1887-1906 and did much valuable work in astronomy.

Langton, Stephen (c 1150-1180) Archbishop of Canterbury from 1107 to 1180. He studied at Paris Univer

sity, where he became a doctor in arts and theology. Although Langton was consecrated Archbishop by Innocent III in 1207, he was not recognised by King John until 1213, the intervening years being spent at Pontigny. He was instrumental in the drawing up of the Great Charter in 1215.

Languages of the World. The task of completing a scientific classification of all the languages, dead and living, of the world may, perhaps, never be accomplished, but the following is, for practical purposes, a fairly accurate classification.

Dead languages are marked with an asterisk

INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

A Eastern

- 1 *Indian* Sanskrit*, Prakrit*, Pali*, Hindi, Bengali, Hindustani, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Romany
- 2 *Iranian* Avestic*, Pehlevi*, Persian, Kurd, Pushtu
- 3 *Armenian*
- 4 *Albanian*
- 5 *Baltic*. Old Prussian*, Lettish, Lithuanian
- 6 *Slavonic* Russian, Ruthenian, Bulgarian; Serbo-Croat, Czech, Wendish, Slovene, Polish

B Western

- 1 *Greek** modern Greek
2. *Latin** Romance Languages—Provençal, Catalan, Italian, Spanish; Portuguese, Rumanian, French, Rhaeto-Romanic
- 3 *Celtic* Gaelic, Welsh, Breton, Irish, Cornish
- 4 *Teutonic* E Germanic—Gothic*, N Germanic, Icelandic, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, W Germanic—English, Frisian, Dutch, Low German dialects, Old High German*, German
5. *Hittite**

SEMITIC AND HAMITIC LANGUAGES

A Semitic

- 1 *E Semitic*. Babylonian*, Assyrian*

2. *W Semitic* Classical Hebrew*, Modern Hebrew, Phœnician*, Aramaic*, Syriac, Arabic, Abyssinian, Amharic.
- B *Hamitic* Egyptian*, Coptic, Berber

CAUCASIAN LANGUAGES
Kirghiz, Georgian

DRAVIDIAN LANGUAGES
Tamil

BASQUE

MONGOLIAN LANGUAGES

A Ural-Altaic

- 1 *Finno-Ugrian* Finnish, Estonian, Lap, Hungarian
- 2 *Altaic* Turkish, Tatar, Mongolian, Tungu, Japanese, Korean

B Austro-Asiatic

- 1 *Munda**
- 2 *Mon-Khmer*. Annamese, Cambodian
- 3 *Austronesian* Polynesian, Melanesian, Micronesian, Indonesian
- 4 *Indo-Chinese* Tibetan, Burmese, Chinese, Siamese

C Arctic

Eskimo

D Sumerian Languages*

ETHIOPIAN LANGUAGES

- 1 *Sudanese*
- 2 *Bantu*
- 3 *Bushman*
- 4 *Hottentot*.
5. *Geez*

AMERICAN LANGUAGES

- 1 *Uto-Aztec*
2. *Iroquian*
- 3 *Caribbean*
- 4 *Araukan*

AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGES

1. *Australian*
- 2 *Papuan*

Languedoc, ancient province of France (capital, Toulouse), now comprised in the departments of Gard, Tarn, part of Haute-Garonne, Aude, Ardèche, Loire, Hérault, Lozère, and Haute-Loire, embracing the region between the Rhone and Garonne.

The name is derived from the old S French affirmative *Oc*. The Provençal dialect is spoken throughout this region.

Langue d'oc and Langue d'oïl, see FRENCH LANGUAGE

Languet, Hubert (1518-1581) French Huguenot scholar and diplomat entered the service of Augustus I Elector of Saxony in 1559. He was at the French Court for some time and narrowly escaped the massacre of St Bartholomew's Eve (157). The best known of the works attributed to him is the *Vindicta contra Tyrannos* (1579).

Langur strictly the large grey monkey of the Himalayas which differs from ordinary Indian monkeys in having no cheek pouches and a large sacculated stomach but now extended to a large number of species with those characters occurring all over SE Asia as far as Borneo. Langurs live entirely on foliage and are exceedingly active climbers.

Lankester Sir Edwin Ray (1847-1919) the most distinguished English zoologist of his period holding an intermediate position between those of the past generation like Huxley, whose studies embraced the whole of the animal kingdom and those of the present time who are restricted by the vastness of the subject to the study of special branches. He was successively Professor of Zoology at the Universities of London and Oxford and Director of the Natural History Museum.

Lanolin (*Adeps lanae hydrosus*) a highly refined hydrated wool grease (*qv*) largely employed for pharmaceutical purposes. Chemically it consists largely of esters composed of fatty acids and higher alcohols and therefore belongs to the waxes. Lanolin has the great advantage of forming a stable emulsion with large amounts of water: it is used as an ointment base on account of its being rapidly absorbed through the skin. See also BLEACHING OILS FATS AND WAXES

Lansbury George (b 1859) English politician leader of the Labour Party

in Parliament in opposition to the National Government (1931). He entered Parliament as a Labour member in 1910 taking a prominent part before the World War in Socialist and women's suffrage propaganda. From 1914 to 1922 he was Editor of the



Mr George Lansbury

Labour Party's official newspapers. He became First Commissioner of Works in the Labour Government (1929-31) and achieved considerable popularity because of his policy of improving and adapting the London parks for public recreation.

Lansdowne William Petty Fitzmaurice 1st Marquess of (1737-1805) British politician. As the Earl of Shelburne he played an important part in the Seven Years War and the peace that followed it. He was a supporter of Pitt and also served under Grenville and Rockingham becoming Prime Minister himself in 1781. But he lost the support of Fox and resigned in 1783.

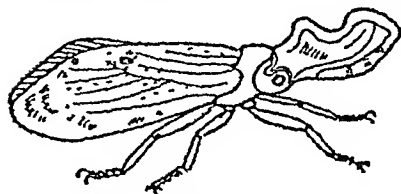
Lansing, capital of the State of Michigan, U.S.A., situated on the Grand R. at its junction with the Cedar. The extensive local reserve of water-power is the basis of a number of flourishing industries (machinery, motor-cars, clothing, etc.) The Agricultural College is the oldest establishment of its kind in the Union. Pop (1930) 78,400.

Lansing, Robert (1864-1928), American statesman and authority on International Law, was briefed for the United States in the arbitrations of the Bering Sea (1893), N. Atlantic fisheries (1905), and the Anglo-American claims (1912-14). In 1915 he became Secretary of State, and distinguished himself by his tact and ability during the World War while America was neutral. He was American delegate to the Peace Conference at Versailles (1919), and published his experiences in *The Peace Negotiations* (1921).

Lansquenet: (1) French corruption of *landsknecht* (qv). (2) Card game introduced into France by the *landsknechte*.

Lantern, in architecture, a wooden or stone structure, with many windows, on the roof of a building. The name is sometimes used to describe the tops of towers of ecclesiastical buildings.

Lantern-fly, family of insects of the order Hemiptera, but strictly a large, tropical, brightly coloured species in



Lantern-fly.

which the front of the head is developed into a great proboscis-like swelling which was formerly, but erroneously, supposed to be luminous.

Lanthanum, a metallic element

belonging to the group known as rare earths. The pure metal may be prepared by the electrolysis of the fused chloride. Some of the salts, such as the carbonate, are used in the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles. See also CLEMENTS.

Laocoon, in Greek legend, a Trojan priest who offended the gods by advising against the introduction of the wooden horse into Troy. As punishment, two sea-serpents were sent, who attacked him and his sons, wound themselves round him and his sons and killed them. A famous Greek sculptural group, discovered in 1506, and now in the Vatican, illustrates the legend.

Laodicea, name of a number of ancient cities in Asia Minor, possibly derived from Laodice, the mother of Seleucus (the founder of the Seleucid dynasty). Laodicea ad Lycum, an Anatolian town (now Denizli) was one of the earliest Christian communities. The town was a flourishing commercial centre.

Laon [LA'ON], the capital of the department of Aisne in NE France. Its historical associations are of great interest. St Remigius founded the bishopric in the 5th cent., and the city was the capital of the later French Carolingians. Situated on an isolated ridge above a wide plain, Laon has always been of exceptional strategic importance. A battle was fought here in Napoleon's campaign of 1814, and it was occupied by the Germans in 1870 and during the World War. The cathedral, which dates from the 12th cent., was damaged in 1870, but still remains one of the noblest ecclesiastical edifices in France. Pop 19,400.

Laos: (1) A territory in the interior of Indo-China, administered under a French protectorate since 1892, and including the protected kingdom of Luang Prabang. It adjoins the Chinese province of Yunnan in the N., having Burma and Siam to the W., and the coastal regions of French Indo-China on the E and S. The

chief river is the Mekong which divides it from Siam. The N. is mountainous and forested with teak. The lower ground is fertile producing a large crop of rice and cotton, tobacco and indigo. The mineral resources (gold, lead, tin and gems) are valuable. The capital is Vientiane. Area c. 89 300 sq. m. pop. (1931) 944 000. (*) A large number of quasi-independent native States under Siamese control or comprised in the Shan States (see BURMA).

Lao-Tse (fl. 6th cent. B.C.) Chinese philosopher and reputed founder of the system known as Taoism (*q.v.*). He has been credited with the *Tao te Ching*, a classic of Chinese philosophy which has been translated into English by C. H. Parker. He was keeper of the archives at Lo Yang where he is said to have been visited by his older contemporary Confucius (*q.v.*). Tradition says that at the end of the 6th cent. B.C. he journeyed into the West and was seen no more.

La Paz (1) A mountainous department of the S. American republic of Bolivia situated partly on the high central plateau and partly among the peaks of the cordillera. It contains the giant Andean summits Illimani (22 500 ft.) and Sorata (23 500 ft.). Agriculture is fairly successful in the E. regions and coffee, cocoa, rubber, sugar and tobacco are grown. The mineral resources are important including valuable copper, lead and gold mines. Area 40 690 sq. m. pop. (estimated 19) 737 000.

(2) The governmental centre of Bolivia situated on the plateau over 13 000 ft. above the sea. It is the link between rail systems from the Pacific coast and the line to Buenos Aires. Copper and wool (alpaca) are the principal articles of commerce. Pop. 147 000.

La Pérouse Jean François Gaspard de (1741-1789) French explorer. In 1783 he joined the French Navy and in 1785 captured Fort York, on the Hudson, from the British in the American War. In 1783 he set out

on a voyage of exploration under government command. He sailed round Cape Horn and explored the W. coast of S. America, crossing to China, he explored the coast up to Kamchatka and sailed across to Australia. He was shipwrecked in the New Hebrides.

Lapidary Work The work of the lapidary goes back to very early times. The art of minutely carving semi-precious stones was developed in Egypt. On the other hand the cutting of brilliant transparent stones such as the diamond and ruby in plane facets so disposed as to take the maximum advantage of the high refractive index is of more recent development. It is attributed to Ludwig van Berghem who lived in Bruges c. 1400. The industry of gem cutting has since remained almost exclusively in Holland and Belgium.

The apparatus employed by the lapidary is extremely simple in character especially in the cutting of diamonds and similar stones. The first operation is known as *bruting* and consists in rubbing two diamonds together, each cemented firmly to a stick until both stones have acquired the desired shape. The material rubbed off is carefully preserved and is used for polishing purposes.

The stones are polished by means of cast iron wheels running horizontally and called *skels*. These rotate at 2500 revolutions per minute and are fed with diamond dust mixed with olive-oil. The diamond dust is made from *boort* (*q.v.*) an otherwise valueless material found along with the diamond.

Lapis Lazuli, silicate of aluminium and sodium generally with sodium sulphide in combination. It is recognizable by its deep blue colour which is responsible for its popularity as an ornamental stone. It is too soft to be much used in jewellery and is liable to lose its lustre. True lapis lazuli comes from the Andes, Afghanistan and Siberia.

Laplace Pierre Simon Marquis de (1749-1827) French scientist. He

became a teacher of mathematics at a local school, and in 1767 went to Paris with letters of recommendation to D'Alembert. These failed to produce the desired effect, so Laplace wrote a paper on the principles of mechanics, which gained him an appointment as Professor of Mathematics of the *École Militaire de Paris*. In 1773 he announced the invariability of planetary mean motion, and followed this with many valuable contributions to the science of astronomy.

Lapland (or *Lappland*), part of N Scandinavia and Finland bordering the Arctic Ocean and inhabited by the Lapps, a nomadic race of Asiatic origin. It has no distinct political identity, and is partitioned between Finland, Sweden, and Norway. Most of Finnish and part of Swedish Lapland is a low plain merging into the tundra; Norwegian Lapland is a wild country of mountain, glacier, and fiord. The Swedish region has rich metallurgical deposits, especially iron-ore. Copper deposits are also important. An electric railway connects the principal mining centre, Gällivara, with the ports of Narvik in Norway and Luleå in Sweden.

The climate of Lapland is Arctic, almost the whole region is within the Circle. In some parts, however, fairly high temperatures rule for a short summer period. The winters are of great severity. The midnight sun is visible for c 10 weeks in summer, whilst in winter the sun does not rise at all for a similar period. The Aurora Borealis is a characteristic phenomenon. The Lapps (native *Sámi*) are small, with broad heads and Mongolian features. They engage in fishing or trapping, or follow a migratory pastoral existence with vast herds of reindeer which afford them meat, milk, and clothing. Area, c 134,000 sq m.

La Plata, capital of the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, founded in 1832, near the older port of Ensenada, on the estuary of the R. Plate and connected by rail with Buenos Aires and the interior. Ensenada, to which

a large modern harbour has been added, serves as an outpost for agricultural produce and cattle. The principal industries are meat packing and petroleum refining. The University of La Plata has charge of some of the most important museum collections on the continent. Pop (estimated 1931) 182,400.

Lapse (*Lat lapsus* = "slip"), an error, or a failure to do something. A devise or legacy is said to lapse when the devisee or legatee dies before the testator, in which case the devise or legacy falls into the residuary estate of the testator. A right may lapse if not exercised within a certain period, etc.

Lapwing, also known from its cry as the *peewit*, and from its colour as the green plover, is one of the commonest species of plovers, distinguished by its generally blackish-green hue with some white on the face and underside, and by the presence of a long tuft of feathers on the back of the head. It is a resident species in England, and frequents meadowland, where it breeds.

Lapworth, Charles (1842-1920), English geologist, began life as a schoolmaster at Galashiels, where for 11 years he devoted his leisure time to geology, especially the study of the Ordovician and Silurian rocks on the S Uplands, and Gyrvan and Moffat have become classical geological areas through his work. From 1881 to 1913 he was Professor of Geology at Birmingham University, and there worked out the complicated structure of the N W Highlands. He was elected F R S in 1888, and from 1902 to 1904 was President of the Geological Society.

Larceny, theft, a felony punishable with penal servitude, in certain cases for life, e.g. larceny of a will. Larceny was formerly divided into *petit*, or petty larceny, where the value of the property was 12 pence or less, and *grand*, where it exceeded that amount. The distinction was abolished in 1801, and the Act of that year, together with the Larceny Act, 1916, forms a complete code of the subject. Simple larceny is

mathematician, educated at Belfast and Cambridge. He has conducted research on electro-dynamics, thermodynamics, and the electrical properties of ether and matter. From 1901 to 1912 he was Secretary, and till 1914 Vice-President, of the Royal Society, and in 1919 was granted a knighthood. Most noteworthy among his literary works is *Æther and Matter*.

La Rochefoucauld, François de (1613-1680), French author of epigrams and maxims. After leaving the Army, he became a leader of literature and fashion in Paris. His sparkling *Maximes* appeared in 1665. These are worldly thoughts conveyed in the briefest, wittiest manner. His *Lettres* and *Mémoires* are scarcely less witty, and surpass the *Maximes* in historical interest.

La Rochelle [*LA ROSHEL'*], a French seaport and the capital of the department of Charente-Inférieure, on the Bay of Biscay, N. of the Charente. Principal industries are textile and glass manufactures, distilling, and sugar refining. The port is the main market for Newfoundland fish. The output of La Pallice now deals with the main shipping. The Hôtel de Ville of La Rochelle is a handsome building dating from the later Middle Ages. The town was the principal stronghold of the Huguenots during the Wars of Religion. Pop 41,520.

Larva, a general name for the immature stage of animals when they lead an independent life and differ considerably from their parents.

Larwood, Harold (b 1904), English cricketer. Began life as a miner, attracted notice by his play for amateur clubs, and joined the ground staff of Notts Cricket Club. Appeared in 1924 as a professional, and in the next year took 73 wickets for an average of 18.01. Played for England against Australia in 1926, and again in 1928, 1930, and 1932. It was in 1932 that he was extraordinarily successful, his fast bowling largely bringing about the English victory. His "leg theory" deliveries created an acrimonious controversy,

several books, one by himself, being written on the subject.

Larynx, the expanded upper part of the air passage which serves as the organ of voice. It is situated high up in the front of the neck, forming a considerable prominence on the surface, called the "Adam's apple," and passes in front into the pharynx and behind into the windpipe. It takes the form of a cartilaginous box, some 2 in. in height, open behind but walled in by 5 cartilages, the thyroid, cricoid, epiglottis, and two arytenoids, in front. The vocal cords are inside the larynx. Two folds of membrane on the sides are the false vocal cords, the true vocal cords being composed of elastic tissue covered by mucous membrane and situated just below the false ones. In speaking, a current of air is directed upwards from the lungs through the larynx, and a musical note is produced by the vibrations of the true vocal cords, which vary the pitch of the note by altering their tension.

La Salle, Antoine de (c 1390-1464), French author, held many court appointments. He is known for an account of chivalry, *Hystoire et plaisante cronique de petit Jehan de Saintré*, and for one of the great French satires, *Les Quinze Joyes de Mariage*.

Las Casas, Bartolomé de (1474-1506), Spanish missionary whose life-work was devoted to the cause of the Indians in Hispaniola. Las Casas was made Bishop of Chiapas, Mexico, in 1544, but 3 years later retired to the Dominican College, Valladolid. Author of an unfinished *History of the Indies*.

Lasker, Emanuel (b 1868), famous German-Jewish chess player, won the chess championship of England in 1892, of America in 1893, and of the world in 1894. He retained the world championship until 1921, in which year he lost the title to Capablanca. In his early years Lasker was a mathematician, and contributed mathematical articles to various societies and journals. He has also published works on chess, philosophy, and science.

Las Palmas capital of Grand Canary in the Canary Islands and formerly of the whole group. It is an important coaling station exporting wine fruit vegetables and sugar. There are ship-building glass and leather industries and the fisheries are considerable. The output is at La Luz a few miles distant. Pop. 72,000.

Lassalle, Ferdinand (1825-1864) German socialist politician. Between 1862 and 1864 he conducted an intensive campaign by oratory and pamphleteering with the object of improving the social and political status of the poor. He himself was wealthy and lived on a lavish scale but his sympathy for the poor was genuine and his campaign was quickly successful. He was founder of the German Socialist movement and as such exerted deep influence throughout Europe publishing *The Working Man's Programme* (1862). He was killed in a duel.

Lasso (Lassus) Orlando Di (c. 1530-1594) the greatest of the Netherlands contrapuntists was born at Mons Hainault. One of his important early appointments was as musical director to Albert V Duke of Bavaria who was a cultured patron of music. While in Munich with the Duke he composed many works his music winning him widespread fame which was shown by the enthusiasm accorded to him when he travelled beyond Munich. He married at Munich and had 6 children 2 of his sons became musicians at the ducal court, after he retired in 1587. In 1589 he published the series of 6 masses which include the remarkable *Missa pro defunctis*. These were his last works. After a long illness he died in 1594. The fame and respect that he enjoyed during his lifetime were merited by the quality and vastness of his output. The *Penitential Psalms* are perhaps the supreme examples of his genius.

László de Lombos Philip Alexius (b. 1869) portrait painter born at Budapest, later settled in England and became a naturalised British sub-

ject. He has painted portraits of many of the crowned heads of Europe including Edward VII Queen Alexandra and the ex-Kaiser and has received many honours and distinctions both in this country and on the Continent. He was made M.V.O. in 1910 and became President of the Royal Society of British Artists in 1930.

Lateran Councils Ecclesiastical Councils held at Rome in the Lateran Church of St John attached to the Lateran palace. The first 11-3 confirmed the Concordat (q.v.) of Worms and renewed the grant of indulgences (q.v.) the second 1139 condemned the Antipope Anacletus II and Arnold of Brescia the third 1179 decided the manner of papal elections the fourth 1215 condemned the Albigenses (q.v.) and declared that any ruler sheltering heretics should be excommunicated and the fifth 1512-17 abrogated the Canons of the Council of Pisa (q.v.).

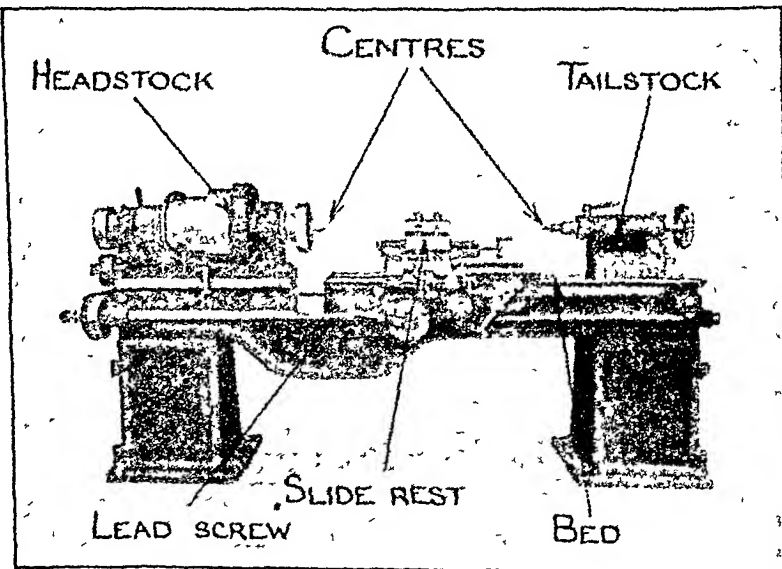
Laterite hydrated oxide of iron and aluminium passing into bauxite (q.v.) when the alumina content exceeds 50 per cent. An important source of iron laterite is characteristic of tropical countries where heavy rain alternates with a dry season and where rocks of a basaltic nature occur. The largest laterite deposits are in the Deccan of India and it also occurs in S. America Africa and Australia.

Lathe a machine for shaping pieces of material by rotating them so that a cutting or grinding tool can be applied to the surface. Usually the tool is held in a fixed position as the piece of material rotates and hence the form given by the cut to the latter is circular. In the *profile lathe* however the tool is moved so as to cut other than circular shapes. If possible the work is mounted between the centres and rotated by a projecting pin on the face plate working against a piece clamped to the work. When this method is not suitable the work is clamped to the face plate or held by a self-centring chuck. The *pop-*

may or may not be used to steady the other end. Tools are very rarely held in the hand in working metal, excepting in marking the work or parting it off, but wood-turning is still very largely performed by hand. The *slide rest* to which the tool is clamped in a metal-turning lathe is provided with two screws turned by hand, which allow the tool to be pushed forward towards the work or withdrawn from it, and to be traversed. Parallel with

speed steels" and "self-hardening steels" have been developed which retain their cutting qualities when red-hot.

As well as cutting tools held against the work and operated by the force of its rotation, the use of separately driven rotating tools is common. Small-toothed wheels are cut from circular blanks, generally a number at a time, by means of a rotating milling tool (see MILLING MACHINE) fixed to



Profile Lathe

the bed of the lathe is a *lead screw*, which can be turned at various speeds through gears from the *headstock*. The slide rest can be put in gear with this lead screw, and is then traversed at a rate depending upon the speed of revolution of the screw.

The speed at which a lathe will work is limited by various factors. One of these is the heat generated in the point of the tool, for maximum cuts on iron and steel this is always cooled by a jet of soap and water. Recently "high-

the slide rest, and traversed with it. The blanks are first turned to size by using the lathe in the ordinary way, a divided plate having been first clamped to the face plate. The lathe is then stopped and the teeth cut one by one, the work being rotated one step of the divided plate after each cut has been made.

Grinding is performed by wheels of carborundum, emery, and other abrasives driven at a high speed, and attached to the slide rest. In large-

From Rome and Latium it spread with the growing power of Rome, first over all Italy, and eventually throughout the whole of the Roman Empire. It was not only the language of classical and later Roman literature, but became the language of learning throughout Western Christendom, and was only gradually at various times supplanted by the vernacular as the official language of the different countries of Central and W Europe. It is now generally considered to be a "dead" language, but this is only relatively the fact.

This language preserved most of the grammatical inflexions of original Indo-European, having lost only 2 of the 8 cases in noun-declension, the dual number, and the middle voice of verbs. In compensation, it developed new tense forms in *b* (e.g. *cantabo*, *cantabam*, the future and imperfect of *cantare* "to sing"). It evolved a set of rules of syntax which, in their complicated strictness, made for a remarkable precision of expression.

The spoken language of ancient Rome was somewhat different from the literary language, and its nature may to some extent be judged from a reading of Plautus (*q v*). It was, of course, this colloquial Latin from which the Romance languages developed.

See R S Conway, *The Making of Latin* (1923).

Latin Literature (see CLASSICAL LITERATURE for early history). The history of this literature did not come to an end in the 6th cent A.D., for Latin continued, often in a debased form, as the chief medium of mediæval literature. The line of demarcation between the last of the classical and the first of the mediæval period is necessarily arbitrary, but the philosophical and theological works of Boethius (c. 480-524) may be taken as a convenient starting-point for the latter. The centre of literature shifted from Rome to Spain and Africa during the 6th cent., and in the 7th cent. to Ireland, whence it spread to Britain. The Englishmen Aldhelm (d. 709), Bede

(c. 673-c. 735), and Alcuin (c. 735-804) were among the foremost literary figures of their day.

Charlemagne initiated a revival of learning in continental Europe, and among other things, encouraged the development of that form of rhymed Latin poetry which had been gradually evolving since the 6th cent. He gathered at his Court such men as Paul the Deacon, who wrote a history of the Lombards, and the Englishman Alcuin. During the 8th cent. schools were instituted in France and Germany, and from these came many poets and hymnographers, including, possibly, the author of *Veni Creator Spiritus*, and up to the 10th cent. the chief glory of Latin literature was its lyric poetry. In the 11th cent. theological literature came to the fore in the work of Lanfranc and Anselm.

The 13th cent. is characterised by a great revival of philosophic literature, notably in the work of Robert Grosseteste, Albertus Magnus, and St. Thomas Aquinas. The last of these was, moreover, the author of several fine hymns which have maintained their popularity, such as the *Adoro te devote* and the *Pange Lingua*. One of the greatest religious poems of all time, the *Dies Iræ*, belongs to this century; as do also the works of Roger Bacon, and the very considerable Latin works of Dante (*q v*).

Mediæval literature came to a close with the Renaissance, but, before this, there was Duns Scotus (*q v*), the last of the great schoolmen.

With the Renaissance in full vigour, many of the greatest Latin writers were Italians, such as Petrarch, Boccaccio, and (later) Bembo and Poliziano (Politian). Other prominent works of pre-Reformation literature are those of Erasmus (*q v*), and the *Epistolæ Obscurorum Virorum* of Johann Reuchlin and others.

After the Renaissance and the Reformation, Latin writers were more consciously imitators of classical Latin, and this fact is apparent in the Latin of the Englishmen Ascham, Sir

Thomas More and Milton and in that famous collection of amatory poems the *Basis* of Johannes Secundus (1511-30) which were modelled upon Catullus (q.v.) Latin lingered for a long time as the language of learning and of scholarly accomplishment and in a less classical form it survives as the official language of the Roman Catholic Church.

Latin Monetary Union, a convention made by France Italy Belgium Switzerland in 1865 by which their standard coins were brought to the same weight and fineness all being equal in the foreign exchange market Greece later entered the Union and Rumania and certain S. American countries adopted the same standard. The Latin Union for some time followed the system of bimetalism (q.v.) or free minting of gold and silver at a ratio of 15½ to 1 but on a fall in the price of the latter this practice was abandoned.

The conditions of the Union were maintained until the World War when the currencies of the Allied nations were pegged at par. Upon the withdrawal of pegging or the systematic maintenance of values at normal rates (see **CURRENCY**) varying degrees of inflation occurred in the Union countries only Switzerland being able to retain its relation with gold. The other countries issued varying amounts of depreciated paper money and eventually stabilised their currencies at different levels the Union being completely at an end. See also **SCANDINAVIAN MONETARY UNION**.

Latitude see **FATH**.

Latitudinarians name applied to the more extreme followers of the broad school of thought in the Church of England especially to certain 17th cent. theologians including Hales Tillotson More and Chillingworth who opposed dogmatism whether High Church or Evangelical and aimed at minimising the importance of various ceremonies and doctrines while endeavouring to find a basis of doctrines broad enough to include all Christians.

Latium, ancient name for a region

comprising the modern Italian district of the Campagna di Roma and the adjacent W. foothills of the Apennines. The name derived from the tribes of Latini dwelling in this district of which the early inhabitants of Rome were a branch.

Latona, in classical mythology (called by the Greeks Leto) was one of the loves of Jupiter and was continually persecuted by the jealous Juno. Neither heaven nor earth would support her and Neptune God of the sea alone gave her a resting place—the island of Delos—where she gave birth to Apollo and Diana. She was eventually raised to Olympus as a goddess and became an object of general veneration.

Latrobe Charles Joseph (1801-1875) Australian administrator born in London of a Moravian family. He was an expert mountaineer and explorer and in 1834 crossed the American prairies from New Orleans to Mexico with Washington Irving. He was sent to the W. Indies in 1837 and appointed Superintendent of the Port Philip District in New S. Wales in 1839. When this area became the colony of Victoria in 1851 Latrobe was made Lieutenant Governor retiring in 1854.

Latter Day Saints, see **MORMONS**.

Latitude see **CRYSTALS**.

Latvia, republic along the S.E. coast of the Baltic Sea situated between Estonia (N) and Lithuania (S) formerly part of the Russian Empire. It is extremely rich in water power derived from numerous lakes and rivers many of which are exploited for electrical power. The bulk of the population are engaged in agriculture and produce fruit flax and sugar beet. Among the natural riches of the republic are amber gypsum chalk sulphur springs peat and iron-ore. The chief industries are metal working chemicals textile and cabinet making. Exports comprise timber flax butter bacon eggs hides liqueurs matches and cellulose.

Latvia has a University at Riga the capital a German Herder Institute an academy of Art and a Conservatoire.

The Latvians form with the Lithuanians a separate branch of the Indo-European group of nations, and are mostly Lutherans, speaking a language showing closer affinities with Sanskrit than any other living tongue

Latvia has a standing army of 25,200 officers and men, and service is compulsory. Its coastal defence is maintained by 2 submarines and 4 small vessels of varying types. There are 3 main harbours—Riga, Windau (Ventspils), and Libau (Liepaja), and a number of spas and health-resorts

Latvia was proclaimed a republic on Nov. 18, 1918, and admitted to the League of Nations in 1921. The Constitution of 1922 provides for a president and a parliament, the latter being composed of 100 members elected for 3 years by secret ballot and proportional representation. All citizens over 21 years of age of both sexes are entitled to vote. From 1795 to 1918 it was under Russian rule. Area, 25,380 sq m, pop. (1930) 1,900,045

Laud, William (1573–1645), Archbishop of Canterbury. Ordained in 1591, he was appointed Dean of Gloucester in 1616, Bishop of St David's in 1621, Dean of the Chapel Royal, 1626, Bishop of London, 1628, and Primate of All England, 1633. Laud was a pious and zealous churchman, and introduced useful reforms in Oxford University, but he was an opponent of Puritanism, endeavoured to enforce religious uniformity on England and Scotland, and took part in the tyrannical actions of the Star Chamber and the High Commission. He became one of the most powerful of Charles I's ministers, supported him in his "divine right" claims and in all his acts of tyranny, and was held to be one of the chief authors of the Civil War, which he urged the Royalists to continue. The Commons impeached him for treason, and then presented a Bill of Attainder. He was beheaded on Tower Hill. The most interesting of his writings is his *Diary* (1694).

Laudanine, an alkaloid which is found in small amounts in opium.

Its structure is known, and it has been prepared by synthesis. It is a crystalline substance of melting-point 166°C. It is not used in the pure state, but is merely one of the constituents of the various medicinal preparations of opium.

Laudanum (or *Tinctura Opii*), an alcoholic extract of opium much used in medicine. It is employed for much the same purposes as morphine (*qv*), that is, principally as an analgesic and hypnotic.

Lauder, Sir Harry MacLennan (b. 1870), Scottish comedian. He worked as a flax-spinner in Arbroath, and then as a miner. He went on the music-



Sir Harry Lauder.

hall stage as a singer of Scottish songs and later became the world's most famous and popular stage Scotsman. He was knighted in 1919, and in 1927 received the freedom of Edinburgh.

Lauderdale, John Maitland, Duke of, (1616–1682), Scots statesman, at first a Covenanter, and until 1647 an ardent supporter of the Presbyterians; after that date he took the royal side, was

imprisoned from 1651 to 1660 and played an important part in the Restoration. He became the King's most trusted adviser and advocated the extinction of the Covenanters and restoration of Scottish episcopacy. He was created duke in 1679.

Laue Max von (b 1879) German physicist was professor at Zürich, Frankfurt and Berlin. He is best known for his work on relativity and in connection with the *Einstein Bohr equation*. He was also the first to discover that X rays are diffracted by passing through a crystal and this has had important results in the study of both X rays and crystals.

Laughing Gas a popular synonym for nitrous oxide N_2O which is employed in surgery as an anaesthetic usually for minor operations such as tooth extraction but in conjunction with oxygen sometimes also for major operations. On recovery from nitrous oxide anaesthesia there sometimes occurs involuntary laughter which gives the gas its name. See also **Nitrogen**.

Laughing Jackass (or *Settler's Clock*) a popular name for several species of large kingfisher (*go*) found in Australia and New Guinea. They are mostly brown or black and white sometimes with a tinge of blue or green and frequent woods feeding on insects, snails, small birds and mammals and sometimes on snakes and other reptiles. They take their name from the cry which they utter at regular times about dawn and dusk.

Laughton, Charles (b 1899) English actor made his debut at Barnes Theatre in 1926 and has acted with distinction in *Mr Prohack*, *On the Spot*, *Mr Pickwick* and *Alibi*, gaining especial success in gangster parts in Edgar Wallace's plays. He took up film work and appeared in *The Old Dark House*, *Dark and the Deep*, *The Sign of the Cross* and *The Priv to Life of Henry VIII*.

Launceston (1) [*LAUN STON*] A municipal borough and market town of NW Cornwall situated inland in

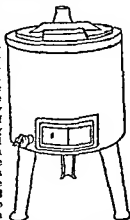
a picturesque hilly country on a tributary of the Tamar. It sustained a siege during the Civil Wars. Pop (1931) 4100.

(2) [*LAWN STSTON*] Chief town of N Tasmania, second town in the State. There is a busy rail connection with Hobart in the S and vigorous trade largely in fruit and timber with S Australia. The town is beautifully situated in the converging river valleys of the Northern and Southern Esk. Pop (1932) 31,000.

Launch, a large ship's boat or a large boat propelled by steam, internal combustion engine or electricity.

Laundering the washing and ironing of soiled clothing and household linens.

The wash tub and corrugated rubbing board of a few years ago are as antiquated to-day as the primitive laundry method of pounding soiled clothes with stones. The dolly, a plunger like a milk stool jerked up and down in a tub of water, the



Domestic Wash Boiler (1)

continual motion on loosening the dirt was the forerunner of the modern washing machine. The vacuum pump consists of a perforated bell-shaped plunger on a long handle jerked up and down in soapy water which is thus sucked through the garments. It is excellent for washing woollens, cleaning without taking away their fluffy quality. A hand-driven washing machine consists of a long handle swinging backward and forward swirling the clothes through the water.

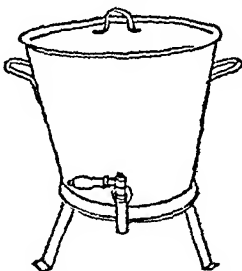
Laundering

About 6 minutes' work will bring all the dirt out of a tubful of clothes

The machine is filled with hot water from the domestic supply by a short hose. If hot water is not laid on, a special machine with its own gas-heating unit may be used.

Clothes hung in the sunshine are bleached whiter and disinfected, but the smoky air of a town often compels the drying of clothes indoors.

Agitation which keeps the clothes and water in constant motion forms the basis of most modern machines. "De Luxe" models have an electric pump for emptying the water, a sediment tap to collect loose dirt, an electric heating element to keep



the water hot during washing, steel tube leg extensions to adjust the height of the machine, electric wringers and ironers, and extractor brackets for drying. The consumption of electricity is c. $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of a unit an hour.

For drying out-of-doors, choose an umbrella drier with radiating arms and lines like a spider's web.

Washing. Household linen should be sorted into the following lots: White table linen, and collars, sheets and body linen, and bedroom towels, coloured cotton and linen materials, woollens and silks, coarse kitchen and other greasy cloths. All should be steeped in cold water, or water with such chemicals as salt, soda (or borax), malt extract (containing diastase) or soap added. Next day wash the woollen, silk, artificial silk and coloured garments in water softened with borax or a water softener (q.v.), and sufficient soap flakes or soap jelly added to produce a lasting lather.

Do not rub, but squeeze, forcing the soapy water through the materials. The woollen garments should be squeezed dry, but the silk may be wrung out.

Wash table linen, fine things, and cotton materials with fast colours, and collars in fresh soapy water, adding c. 1 tablespoonful of soda to 1 gallon, if the water has not already been softened. Boil in a permanent lather for 20-25 minutes, wring out or mangle; rinse, and starch (using a little blue), then wring again. Bed and body linen require 20-25 min boiling, coarse linen cloths 5 min longer.

Ironing. A smooth, creaseless surface can be secured with irons heated on any form of fire, or internally by gas, electricity, or petrol. A flat-iron, heated on a stove or gas-ring, requires careful cleaning of the smooth surface before using.

Generally speaking, the material to be ironed should be uniformly damp, and the iron should just sizzle when a wet finger is touched to the hot surface. Artificial silk, however, requires only a moderately hot iron, as excessive heat causes the threads to melt and cohere. Shantung becomes stiff and hard and patchy if ironed damp. Woollen materials should be only slightly damp, and covered with a cloth dipped in water running nearly dry. Use a warm or moderately hot iron for pressing.

Press double parts, such as hems, and small parts, such as ribbons, collars, cuffs, and decorations, first, the former on the wrong side. When the article is large and not circular, iron the farthest part first, pushing it away, as dealt with, to prevent creasing the freshly ironed article. Iron sleeves before the remainder of a garment.

Iron the wrong side of collars and cuffs, and front opening, then on the right side. Place each sleeve on the board with the seam parallel to the edge, and smooth the surfaces with the hand. Iron the whole length of the sleeve and to within an inch of the oppo-

side side Open out the sleeve and place on the board with the remaining unpressed part down the centre avoiding an unsightly ridge Press the shoulder with iron inside the sleeve

Gufering is the application of a flat appearance to gathered iron accomplished with the use of special tools on a machine consisting of two corrugated rollers like those of a wringer turned by a handle

Washing is the pressing of household linen between wooden rollers to distribute the moisture evenly or to facilitate the subsequent ironing It is sometimes used instead of ironing unstarched household linen articles—bedroom towels sheets coarse aprons dusters etc

Laurel, a popular name for several unrelated evergreen trees and shrubs but properly restricted to two species of *Laurus* the principal genus of the *Lauraceae* There are *Laurus nobilis* the Bay-laurel of the ancients often referred to as bay a native of the Mediterranean whose aromatic leaves are used in condiments and *Laurus avicenis* of the Canary Islands The laurel cultivated in gardens is the berry laurel (*Prunus lauro-cerasus*) a spreading tree attaining a height of nearly 20 ft when untrimmed with variegated intensely poisonous leaves

Laurens, **Henry** (1744-1797) American statesman of Huguenot family He became clerk in a London counting house at 16 took up trade and turned planter at Charleston In 1776 he was made Vice President of

Caroline and attended the Continental Congress at Philadelphia first as delegate then as President in 1777-8 On his way to negotiate a loan in Holland he was captured by the British and imprisoned in the tower from which he was released a year later in 1781 being finally exchanged for Cornwallis He was one of the American commissioners present at the signing of the preliminary peace treaty with Great Britain at Paris in 1782

His son **JOHN LAURENS** (c 1766-82)

was one of the most prominent American revolutionaries After being sent by Washington on a mission to France he fought at Yorktown and arranged the terms of Cornwallis's surrender

Laurent, **Auguste** (180-1933) French chemist He was professor of chemistry at Bordeaux and was later appointed to the Paris mint where he remained till his death One of his first researches was the investigation of the action of chlorine and of nitric acid on naphthalene

Laurent's chief contribution to chemistry however was his definition and explanation of the terms molecule and atom

Laurier **Sir Wilfrid** (1841-1919) Canadian politician He was a French Canadian and the first French Canadian Prime Minister of Canada being head of Liberal governments from 1896 to 1910 He created a great impression when he came to England for Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897 and secured the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties thus enabling Canada and other Dominions to make preferential trade arrangements with Great Britain He introduced the Canadian preference of 33½ per cent for British goods In the South African War he sent Canadian contingents His premiership was a period of great prosperity for Canada and his speeches exerted much influence throughout the Empire He strove always for unity within Canada and within the Empire and for friendship between Canada and the U.S.A. He was knighted in 1897

Laurustinus, a conspicuous ornamental evergreen shrub (*Viburnum*) in English gardens flowering from Nov to April or later with abundant white or pinkish flowers It grows well from cuttings

Lausanne capital of Vaud canton on the N shore of Lake Geneva Switzerland Its industries are tobacco chocolate and viticulture It is an important tourist and educational centre and the seat of the Swiss High

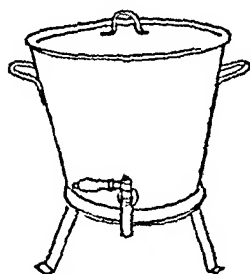
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the water hot during washing, steel tube leg extensions to adjust the height of the machine, electric wringers and ironers, and extractor brackets for drying. The consumption



Domestic Wash Boiler (2)

of electricity is $c \frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a unit an hour.

For drying out-of-doors, choose an umbrella drier with radiating arms and lines like a spider's web.

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